

28. A CONTRIBUTION TO THE VEGETATION OF CHAIBASA
(NORTH), SINGHBHUM DIST. (NORTH BIHAR)

91 more plants under 84 genera collected from Chaibasa (North) forest have been accounted for in this paper. Of these 11 species are monocotyledons and 80 species are dicotyledons. 81 species under 71 genera collected from Chaibasa (South) forest are published in earlier works [*J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.* 77(2): 223-226].

ENUMERATION

In the following enumeration the system of Bentham and Hooker with some delimitations has been followed. Nomenclature has been as far as possible brought up to date. It may be noted that the following species were collected during the months of June-July 1980. The field numbers mentioned against the place of collections is indicative of the author's own contribution. The enumerated taxa have been deposited at N.B.S. Mahavidyalaya, Bishnupur, Bankura (West Bengal).

DICOTYLEDONS

RANUNCULACEAE

Clematis gouriana Roxb. ex Dc. Biswas 10
Thalictrum javanicum Bl. Biswas 22

MAGNOLIACEAE

Michelia champaca L. Biswas 23

ANONACEAE

Desmos chinensis Lour. Biswas 44
Polyalthia longifolia (Sonn.) Thw. Biswas 50
P. cerasoides (Roxb.) Bth. & Hk. f. Biswas 61

NYMPHAEACEAE

Nelumbo nucifera Gaertn. *Nelumbium speciosum* Willd. Biswas 72
Nymphaea nouchali Burm. f.
N. pubescens Willd. Biswas 82

PAPAVERACEAE

Papaver somniferum L. Biswas 32

CRUCIFERAE

Brassica juncea (L.) Czern.
B. nigra Koch Biswas 2
Coronopus didymus (L.) Sm.
Lepidium didymum L. Biswas 25
Raphanus sativus L. Biswas 34

CAPPARACEAE

Cleome viscosa L. Biswas 39

BOMBACACEAE

Bombax ceiba L.
B. malabaricum DC. Biswas 15

MALVACEAE

Pavonia odorata Willd. Biswas 52
Sida cordifolia L. Biswas 73
S. acuta Burm. f. Biswas 67

STERCULIACEAE

Melochia corchorifolia L. Biswas 70
Pterospermum acerifolium Willd. Biswas 55

TILIACEAE

Corchorus aestuans L.
C. acutangulus Lamk. Biswas 1

RUTACEAE		<i>Caesalpinia pulcherrima</i> (L.) SW. Biswas 58
<i>Aegle marmelos</i> (L.) Corr.	Biswas 7	<i>Peltophorum pterocarpum</i> (DC.) Baker ex. K. Heyne
<i>Limonia acidissima</i> L.		<i>P. ferrugineum</i> Benth. Biswas 5
<i>Feronia elephantum</i> Corr.	Biswas 12	<i>Saraca asoca</i> (Roxb.) De Wilde Biswas 6
MELIACEAE		MIMOSACEAE
<i>Azadirachta indica</i> A. Juss.		<i>Acacia nilotica</i> (L.) Willd. ex Del.
<i>Melia azadirachta</i> L.	Biswas 62	Subsp. <i>indica</i> (Benth.) Brenm. Biswas 18
<i>Chloroxylon swietenia</i> DC.	Biswas 3	<i>A. auriculiformis</i> A. Cunn. Biswas 42
<i>Swietenia mahogani</i> Jacq.	Biswas 13	<i>Mimosa pudica</i> L. Biswas 63
RHAMNACEAE		<i>Pithecellobium dulce</i> (Roxb.) Benth. Biswas 16
<i>Zizyphus oenoplia</i> (L.) Mill	Biswas 53	ONAGRACEAE
VITACEAE		<i>Centella asiatica</i> (L.) Urban.
<i>Cayratia pedata</i> (Lamk.) Juss. ex Gagnep. <i>Cissus pedata</i> Lamk.	Biswas 85	<i>Hydrocotyle asiatica</i> L. Biswas 19
<i>Cissus quadrangula</i> L.		<i>Ludwigia prostrata</i> Roxb. Biswas 35
<i>C. setosa</i> Roxb.	Biswas 29	<i>L. perennis</i> L. Biswas 17
SAPINDACEAE		<i>Oenanthe javanica</i> (Bl.) DC.
<i>Cardiospermum halicacabum</i> L.	Biswas 26	<i>O. benghalensis</i> Benth. and Hk. f. Biswas 30
ANACORDIACEAE		RUBIACEAE
<i>Buchanania lanzan</i> Spreng.	Biswas 11	<i>Borreria articularis</i> (L.f.) Williams
PAPILIONACEAE		<i>Spermacoce hispida</i> L. Biswas 38
<i>Abrus precatorius</i> L.	Biswas 9	<i>Ixora arborea</i> Roxb. ex Smith
<i>Clitoria ternatea</i> L.	Biswas 14	<i>I. parviflora</i> Vahl Biswas 33
<i>Crotalaria juncea</i> L.	Biswas 8	<i>I. coccinea</i> L. Biswas 83
<i>Desmodium motorium</i> (Houtt.) Merr. <i>D. gyrans</i> (L. f.) DC.	Biswas 4	<i>Pavetta indica</i> L. Biswas 20
<i>Erythrina variegata</i> L.		COMPOSITAE
<i>E. indica</i> Lamk.	Biswas 56	<i>Blumea lacera</i> (Burm. f.) DC. Biswas 21
<i>Tephrosia purpurea</i> (L.) pers.	Biswas 60	<i>Tridax procumbens</i> L. Biswas 36
CAESALPINIACEAE		OLEACEAE
<i>Cassia occidentalis</i> L.	Biswas 31	<i>Jasminum arborescens</i> Roxb. Biswas 37
		APOCYNACEAE
		<i>Nerium indicum</i> Mill. Biswas 27
		<i>Rauwolfia serpentina</i> (L.) Benth. ex Kurz Biswas 64

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

ASCLEPIADACEAE		LABIATAE	
<i>Calotropis procera</i> (Willd.) Dryand ex W. Ait.	Biswas 28	<i>Hyptis suaveolens</i> (L.) Poit.	Biswas 45
		AMARANTHACEAE	
<i>Pergularia daemia</i> (Forsk.) Choiv. <i>Daemia extensa</i> R. Br.	Biswas 54	<i>Amaranthus spinosus</i> L.	Biswas 47
		<i>A. viridis</i> L.	Biswas 49
GENTIANACEAE		EUPHORBIACEAE	
<i>Canscora diffusa</i> (Vahl.) R. Br. ex Roem and Schult.	Biswas 59	<i>Acalypha indica</i> L.	Biswas 51
		<i>Antidesma ghesmbilla</i> Gaertn.	Biswas 81
BORAGINACEAE		<i>Croton bonplandianum</i> Baill	
<i>Cordia dichotoma</i> Forst. f.	Biswas 68	<i>C. sparsiflorum</i> Morang	Biswas 76
<i>Heliotropium indicum</i> L.	Biswas 40	<i>Jatropha gossypifolia</i> L.	Biswas 53
<i>H. ovalifolium</i> Forsk.	Biswas 86	<i>Phyllanthus fraternus</i> webster	
		<i>P. niruri</i> Hook. f.	Biswas 54
CONVOLVULACEAE		MONOCOTYLEDONS	
<i>Cuscuta reflexa</i> . Roxb.	Biswas 71	HYDROCHARITACEAE	
<i>Ipomea aquatica</i> Forsk.		<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i> (L. f.) Royle	Biswas 87
<i>Ipomea reptans</i> poir	Biswas 74		
SCROPHULARIACEAE		ORCHIDACEAE	
<i>Lindernia ciliata</i> (Colsm.) Pennell.		<i>Vanda tessellata</i> (Roxb.) Hk. ex	
<i>Bonnaya brachiata</i> Link. Otto	Biswas 75	G. Don <i>V. roxburghii</i> R. Br.	Biswas 57
<i>Limnophila heterophylla</i> (Roxb.) Benth.	Biswas 89		
ACANTHACEAE		AMARYLLIDACEAE	
<i>Barleria prionitis</i> L.	Biswas 90	<i>Curculigo orchioides</i> Gaertn.	Biswas 65
<i>Hygrophila auriculata</i> (Schum.) Heine	Biswas 77	COMMELINACEAE	
<i>Rungia pectinata</i> (L.) Nees		<i>Amischophacelus axillaris</i> (L.) Rolla Rao and Kamm. <i>Cyanotis axillaris</i> (L.) Roem and Schult.	Biswas 69
<i>R. parviflora</i> (Retz.) Nees var. <i>pectinata</i> (L.) Cl.	Biswas 91	<i>Commelina appendiculata</i> Cl.	Biswas 41
		<i>C. benghalensis</i> L.	Biswas 66
VERBENACEAE		CYPERACEAE	
<i>Clerodendrum viscosum</i> vent.		<i>Fimbristylis spathacea</i> Roth	Biswas 24
<i>C. infortunatum</i> auct pl. (non L.)	Biswas 78		
<i>Tectona grandis</i> L. f.	Biswas 43		

POACEAE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

<i>Arundinella setosa</i> Trin.	Biswas 80
<i>Chrysopogon aciculatus</i> (Retz.) Trin.	
<i>Andropogon aciculatus</i> Retz.	Biswas 88
<i>Eragrostis coarctata</i> Stapf	Biswas 46
<i>Sclerostachya fusca</i> (Roxb.)	
A. Camus	Biswas 48

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29. OCCURRENCE OF *DESMODIUM SCORPIURUS* (SWARTZ)
DESVAUX IN WESTERN INDIA

(With five text-figures)

During routine plant collection around Pune, an unusual plant of *Desmodium* type was noticed. It showed quite different morphological features and we could not match it with any species of Papilionaceae occurring in Maharashtra. It grows near hedges among grasses and low shrubs. It thrives well in coarse soils. So far a single patch of this species has been observed in the Pune Municipal area. The plant has been identified as *Desmodium scorpiurus* (Sw.) Desv. and described as follows:

Desmodium scorpiurus (Sw.) Desv. Journ. Bot. 1: 122, 1813; DC. Prodr. 2: 333, 1825; Schubert, Fl. Peru, 8: 433, 1943; *Hedysarum scorpiurus* Sw. Prodr.: 107, 1788; *Meibomia scorpiurus* (Sw.) O. Ktze. Rev. Gen. 1: 198, 1891; *Nissoloides cylindrica* M. E. Jones, Contr. West. Bot. 18: 135, 1935 (Figs. 1 to 5). *Scorpiurus*, refers to the monoliform hairy pods showing much resemblance with the tail unit of the scorpion.

A diffuse straggling herb. Stem wiry, somewhat angled, grooved, ascending, covered with hooked hairs. Leaves trifoliate, alternate, glabrescent to puberulous; stipule foliaceous, 3-5 mm long, ovate, acuminate, amplexicaulauriculate at base; leaf rachis 3-7 cm long; petioles \pm 1 mm; stipules filiform, \pm 1 mm long; lateral leaflets 3-7 cm by 1.5-4.0 cm, ovate-oblong, or elliptic-oblong, obtuse; terminal leaflets 2.0-6.0 cm by 1.5-4.5 cm, elliptic or obovate, obtuse; main nerves 5-7 pairs; conspicuous beneath; leaflets sparsely hairy on both surfaces, more dense beneath with a few hooked hairs. Flowers in terminal and axillary racemes of 15-20 cm length, laxly arranged in few flowered (2-4) fascicles; pedicels filiform, 3-6 mm long, puberulous; bracts 2-3 mm long, persistent, lanceolate, acute, ciliate; calyx 2 mm long, hairy; teeth about as long as the tube, linear, acute, ciliate; corolla 3-4 mm long, standard white, wing purplish or white diffused with violet, ultimately fading to lemon-yellow;